

The Greene Leaflet

News from Greene County Master Gardener Volunteers

May / June 2024



The 2024 intern class attended orientation on April 3rd at the Extension office. The newly transferred MGV also joined us. We are all very excited to start the training. This year they will also be doing class projects as part of their volunteer hours. They are holding their jars with soil and water as part of the first lab they will have in May. Start getting familiar with them:

New MGV transferees: Mark Sullenberger (transferred from New York), Linda Sutton (transferred from Montgomery County)

New MGV interns: Jennifer Bing, John Cambron, Debra Fazio, Mary Jane Foos, Patricia Graves, Javonte McDonald, Jane Moresi, Mary Beth Natarajan, Stanley Ocheskey, Julianne Redmond, Colleen Slapak, Nancy Trawick, Martha Worrell

Not pictured: Huda Hassen Mohammed, and Rebecca Szabo

Home Vegetable Gardening Program



Horticultural News

Box Tree Moth (BTM)



Box Tree Moth (BTM) (*Cydalima perspectalis*, family Crambidae) is a non-native pest of boxwoods (*Buxus* spp.). BTM is native to a wide geographical range from the Koreas across China and the Indochina peninsula into eastern India.

Box Tree Moth (BTM) Update #1 | BYGL (osu.edu)

Box Tree Moth Caterpillars S.W. Ohio



Home gardeners may ask what they can spray to kill the BTM caterpillars. There are several things to consider before providing guidance on insecticides targeting BTM.

Box Tree Moth (BTM) Update #2: Home Gardener Insecticides | BYGL (osu.edu)

Joe Boggs, OSU Extension©

Horticultural News



Tom Macy from Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry reported that Elm Zig Zag Sawfly adults were trapped last week in Central Ohio. Zig Zag Sawfly (*Aproceros leucopodal* Order: Lepidoptera) is a new non-native invasive wasp from Asia whose larva cause defoliation on native and non-native elms (*Ulmus* spp.).

Elm ZigZag Sawfly Emerging in Central Ohio | BYGL (osu.edu)

Stop by Friday, May 10th, for our annual spring plant sale from 12:30 to 5:00

Horticultural Articles

Boxwood Leafminers

Adult leafminers are emerging now and swarming around boxwood shrubs. The adults only live one day, during which they mate and lay eggs. Leafminers look like small yellow-orange-red mosquitoes.

The female inserts eggs into new boxwood leaves. The eggs hatch into a larval stage within three weeks, and the larvae will then feed within the leaves until fall. The partially grown larvae will overwinter inside the leaf blisters. They will pupate in the spring, emerge as adults, and begin the cycle again.

To control leafminers, apply insecticide as a coarse spray or soil drench from February to early April. This will kill the larvae that will emerge in May. Treat adult leafminers when they emerge in April. If a drench wasn't used in early spring, use a foliar spray in June to control the larvae developing in new leaves. Read the product label to determine the chemical's effectiveness against leafminers and to learn how to apply it.

<https://bygl.osu.edu/node/1230>

Carol Lea Brown, OSU Extension Greene County Master Gardener Volunteer

Spring Cleanup

Cleaning up the garden for spring is an exciting time after being indoors all winter. However, here are some important things to consider. One of the most important things is knowing when to start. Pollinators overwinter in the dead debris that you plan to remove. By being conscious of this and choosing to do a spring cleanup rather than fall, can protect beneficial insects such as bees and butterflies. An easy rule to follow is to wait until temperatures are about 50 degrees before starting your clean up. Further, watch for bee nestlings, chrysalises, and cocoons. Move any sticks or leaf debris that you find with these on them to a corner of the garden bed and protect these for a few extra weeks.

In the past, people traditionally cleaned up the garden in the fall, the reasoning was mostly ascetic. However, this is not best for the natural world and the things that overwinter in the debris. Birds have less to eat and may find worms and other tidbits in the debris and leaf debris can help protect plant roots. This suggests that by stopping fall clean up and doing your work in the spring will help protect our environment and be beneficial to the many things that overwinter in our plant debris.

Debby Haines, OSU Extension Greene County Master Gardener Volunteer

Project Updates

The Master Gardener Volunteer project, Mary Help of Christians, has been joint venture between the church and MGV's for 28 years. The project mission is to produce fresh produce for the Fairborn community. Last year they harvested 1,877 pounds of produce donated to Fairborn FISH and St. Vincent DePaul food pantries. The garden is under production from spring (fall planted spinach) through fall (fall cabbage harvest). If you are interested in helping or being added to their email list, contact Denise Wetzel at dcwmg41@gmail.com



Owen's Place MGVs had a planning meeting at Panera. They will be working in the garden weekly from here on out, weather permitting.

Phenology garden – The *Viburnum carlesii* is in full bloom. GGD is 185 for full bloom.



Speakers:
Joseph Dean and Brad Stone for
the
Mulch: Best Practices Program
held March 14th



*Xenia Preschool Community Open House Program
pictured: Lauren McGinley and Arlon Zabel*

Congratulations to Norma Landis
on receiving her 10 year badge



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to the following people.
We all wish you a happy, fun special day and
an amazing year ahead!

June

Garry Abfalter
Starlene Brooks
Debbie Downes
Jennifer Eddy
Diana Neely
Nimfa Simpson
Mary Jane Foos

**Extension Educator, Agriculture and Natural Resources:
Marina Miquilini, miquilini.1@osu.edu 937-736-7205**

**Program Assistant, Horticulture:
Kim Hupman, hupman.5@osu.edu 937-736-7209**

OSU Extension Greene County Master Gardener Volunteer Advisory Board:

Bev Taylor - President

Sarah Preston - Vice President -

Secretary – Mary Ann Accorinti

Treasurer - Starlene Brooks

Members at Large -

Lorraine Bonavita

Kathy Lewis

Jan Fix

Past President - Debbie Downes



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